

RNCA
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CHINESE STUDENTS

ANNCR:

THE CURRENT STUDENT ACTIVISM IN CHINESE UNIVERSITIES IS NOT BEING VIEWED BY VETERAN OBSERVERS OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC AS THE START OF A NEW CULTURAL REVOLUTION. JIM MILLER HAS THIS REPORT FROM HONG KONG:

VOICE:

THE EXPERTS WHO WATCH THE CHINESE MAINLAND FROM THE VANTAGE POINT OF THIS BRITISH COLONY SEE THE PRESENT WAVE OF STUDENT PHILOSOPHICAL ATTACKS AGAINST CERTAIN CHINESE EDUCATORS AS SOMETHING OF A SAFETY VALVE THAT PERMITS THE STUDENTS TO AIR THEIR PROTESTS -- THAT IS, TO A CERTAIN POINT. THE TARGETS OF THE ATTACKS ARE WHAT ARE DESCRIBED AS, THE OLD INTELLECTUALS WHO, IN THE WORLDS OF THE STUDENTS, HAVE A WORLD OUTLOOK THAT REMAINS UNCHANGED. IN OTHER WORDS, THE MODERATES TEACHING IN THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.

BUT IT IS THE MODERATES WHO PRESUMABLY HAVE THE UPPERHAND IN CHINA. CHIEF AMONG THEM IS VICE-PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING, THE MAN WHO RUNS CHINA'S DAY-TO-DAY AFFAIRS IN THE ABSENCE OF THE HOSPITALIZED PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI. VICE-PREMIER TENG REMEMBERS ALL TOO WELL THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION OF THE MID-NINETEEN SIXTIES, WHEN HE WAS CAST INTO POLITICAL DISGRACE. IT TOOK HIM SEVERAL YEARS TO MOVE BACK INTO THE RULING HIERARCHY OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC.

A THEORY GIVEN CONSIDERABLE CURRENCY AMONG THE CHINA EXPERTS IN THAT CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG HAS INSTRUCTED THE LEADERSHIP IN CHINESE EDUCATION TO GO ALONG WITH A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF PROTESTS BUT NOT TO LET IT GET OUT OF HAND. THE

CULTURAL REVOLTUION DID GET OUT OF HAND AND THAT CHAOS THAT FOLLOWED TOOK YEARS TO REPAIR.

THE CHINA WATCHERS ASLO POINT OUT THAT CHAIRMAN MAO STILL HOLDS FIRMLY TO THE BELIEF THAT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF STRUGGLE AND CONTROVERSY IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF THE CHINESE REVOLUTION. THE STUDENTS REFER TO THEIR EFFORTS AS REVOLUTIONARY ACTIONS TOWARD REFORM OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM. BUT NO SWEEPING CHANGES IN CHINESE EDUCATION ARE EXPECTED TO RESULT FROM THE RUMBLINGS THAT ARE PRESENTLY BEING HEARD IN PEKING.

JS/CAK